Evaluation of the Work Done by the National Centre of Films for Children and Young People

2584. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work done by the National Cente of Films for children and young people has been evaluated;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government feel it necessary to do the evaluation; and

(d) what steps are being taken to promote and encourage good films for children?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The performance is satisfactory. During 1995-96, the National Centre of Films For Children And Yound People (N'CYP) held International Films Festival for Children and Young People successfully at Hyderabad and alsc participated in 18 International Film Festivals abroad. 85 district-wise package programmes were held amounting to 6500 shows covering an audience of 25 lakhs. A number of film festivals were organised in the North Eastern States. Two feature films were completed and five films were dubbed in other languages to make them available to a larger audience.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The N'CYP has been set up for promoting children's films. It looks after production as well as exhibition of films through theatres, schools and TV. Apart from producing films, N'CYP also obtains rights of certain good foreign films which suit the requirement of Indian children and arranges for their dubbing in Indian languages and exhibition in the country.

Films certified as children's films by the Central Board of Film Certification are normally exempted from entertainment tax by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Awards have been instituted at National and State levels to encourage production of children's films. The N'CYP also organises international film festival of films for children and young people in alternate years, thus providing an exposure to Indian producers and viewers to high quality children's films.

The N'CYP assigns the production of children's films on contract basis to outside producers and finances the production of such films. In-house production facilities to bring down the cost of production are also provided to the extent possible.

Fixing Fares for Air India/Indian Airlines

2585. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the distance is the basis for fixing fares for Air India/Airlines, if so, how travel by Air India and Indian Airlines from Kerala costs more than from other airports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): While distance is one of the criteria, other factors such as operating cost, market conditions, capacity deployed by the carriers, type of aircraft deployed on the route etc. are also taken into account while fixing fares. The published fares from Kerala airports based on a per kilometer basis are not higher than those from other airports.

News Item Regarding Fifth Pay Commission Report

2586. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: